

Group VI: Claim 40, drawn to a method for screening an agent for treating metabolic bone disease by using an osteoclast cell; and

Group VII. Claim 41, drawn to an agent for treating metabolic bone disease.

Applicants have elected with traverse, Group I: Claims 21-25, for further prosecution.

The M.P.E.P. in § 803 states:

"If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without a serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions."

Applicants respectfully submit that a search of all the claims would not impose a serious burden on the Office.

Applicants contend this application is now in condition for examination on the merits and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon



Daniel J. Pereira, Ph.D.
Registration No. 45,518

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)